This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and
listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-69 (Canceled)

70.   (New) A welding device in communication with a computer
network comprising:

a) a current source for supplying electrical energy to the
welding device

b) at least one electrode in communication with said current
source;

c) a housing;

d) a control and evaluation unit in communication with said
current source disposed in said housing;

e) at least one memory system disposed in said housing and
in communication with said control and evaluation unit, said

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memory system for storing a set of welding parameters and a set

of instructions for controlling said control and evaluation unit;

f) a communications interface disposed in said housing

coupled to said control and evaluation unit for two way data

exchange between said control and evaluation unit and the

computer network;

g) at least one sensor system in communication with said

communications interface for detecting data relevant to welding

during operation of the welding device; and

h) a HTTP server in communication with said communications

interface wherein said HTTP server is for receiving information

from the computer network including welding parameters and

forwarding this information onto said control and evaluation unit

and wherein said HTTP server is for receiving information from

said communications interface in a form of welding parameters

wherein this information is transmitted over the computer network

to other computers.

71. (New) The device as in claim 70, wherein said HTTP

server is integrated with said welding device and said current

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source.

72.   (New) The device as in claim 70, wherein said HTTP
server is disposed external to said welding device and said
current source.

73.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
HTTP server forms a connection with a network which includes at
least one additional HTTP server.

74.   (New) The welding device as in claim 73, wherein said
network is in the form of the Internet.

75.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
control and evaluation unit is a computer unit which operates via
at least one software module of a control program and processes
and prepares received data or data to be transmitted.

76.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
communications interface is a TCP/IP interface that enables
communication to be operated using a TCP/IP protocol.

77.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said

communications interface is designed as a link to a local area

network.

   78. (New) The welding device as in claim 75, wherein said

at least one software module can be downloaded via a local area

network to said control and evaluation unit.

   79. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said

control and evaluation unit has a standardized interface, and

wherein said communications interface is a modem.

   80. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said

control and evaluation unit has a standardized interface, and

wherein said communications interface is a network card.

   81. (New) The welding device as in claim 80, wherein said

control and evaluation unit is a standardized interface that is a

serial interface in the form of a RS 232 interface.

   82. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said

communications interface can be used to download or upload data

for a welding process or welding codes.

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83.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
communications interface is used to transmit data relating to
operating supplies, such as the quantity and nature of a welding
electrode, a fusible welding wire, an inert gas, or data relating
to components susceptible to wear, a position of a contact
sleeve, a position of a gas nozzle; wherein this information can
be transmitted to other computers on the network via said
communications interface.

84.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
communications interface is in communication with the computer
network to receive or transmit in cycles, data relating to the
operation of the welding device including the duration of use,
timing of usage, and welding settings.

85.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
input device is set to operate said welding device and to
navigate and select data from a set of data files in a technical
data base for use with welding technology.

86.   (New) The welding device as in claim 85, wherein said
input device comprises a keyboard, a pointer device, a push-stick
control member, at least one rotating or sliding member with

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keying or switching functions.

87. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, further
comprising an output device for displaying a set of data that can
be input by said input device, managed by said control and
evaluation unit or retrieved by said computer network which can
then be displayed on said output device.

88. (New) The welding device as in claim 87, wherein said
control and evaluation unit comprises a personal computer, and
wherein said output device is in the form of a monitor.

89. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
software modules are object oriented software modules.

90. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
control and evaluation unit has a software module for a
sequencing system or operating system for integrating the object
oriented software modules and processing a control program.

91. (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
control and evaluation unit operates said software modules on a
cyclical or interrupt-controlled basis.

92.   (New) The welding device as in claim 91, wherein said
software modules are written in a JAVA source language.

93.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
control and evaluation circuit has a JAVA interpreter.

94.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
control and evaluation circuit has a JAVA processor.

95.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
communications interface is a wireless communications interface
that sets up a wireless data transmission route to a desired
communication or transmission partner.

96.   (New) The welding device as in claim 70, wherein said
communications interface is an infrared interface for
transmitting and receiving infrared signals between said welding
device and a mobile telephone.

97.   (New) The welding device as in claim 96, wherein said
infrared interface of said communications interface is set to
connect with an infrared interface of a mobile telephone.

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98.   (New) The device as in claim 70, further comprising a
programming and display unit wherein said communications
interface connects directly with said programming and display
unit.

99.   (New) A method for operating a welding device in
communication with a computer network comprising a current
source; a control and evaluation unit in communication with said
current source; a communications interface in communication with
said control and evaluation unit; at least one sensor system in
communication with said communications interface, a web server in
communication with said communications interface, the method
comprising the steps of:

supplying electrical energy from said current source to at
least one electrode in communication with the current source;

monitoring a set of welding parameters of the welding unit
during operation using the sensor system;

exchanging data in two directions between said control and
evaluation unit and the computer network, via the communications
interface, through a communications network, the information

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including said welding parameters, and forwarding this
information onto said control and evaluation unit; and

running at least one software module on said control and
evaluation unit, wherein said at least one software module
receives instructions in the form of data exchanged over the
computer network to control a welding process.

100. (New) The method as in claim 99, further comprising the
step of:

transmitting codes across the computer network to control
the software modules which are run by said control and evaluation
unit.

101. (New) The method as in claim 100, further comprising
the step of:

transmitting operating data relating to operating supplies,
operating statuses through said communication interface through
the communications network to another server on the network.

102. (New) The method as in claim 101, further comprising

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the step of:

downloading servicing requirement messages and service requests including messages relating to stocks of operating supplies and orders for operating supplies from said control and evaluation unit to another server on the communications network.

103. (New) The method as in claim 99, further comprising the step of:

downloading servicing requirement messages and service requests including messages relating to stocks of operating supplies and orders for operating supplies from said control and evaluation unit to another server on the communications network.

104. (New) The method as in claim 99, wherein said communications network is in the form of the Internet.

105. (New) A welding device in communication with a computer network including a web server, the welding device comprising:

a) a current source for supplying electrical energy;

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b) at least one electrode in communication with said current source;

c) a control and evaluation unit in communication with said current source;

d) an input device in communication with said control and evaluation unit;

e) a communications interface coupled to said control and evaluation unit for two way data exchange between said control and evaluation unit and the computer network; and

f) at least one sensor system in communication with said communications interface for detecting welding parameters selected from the group consisting of: welding current rating, temperature conditions, burning depth, characteristic features of a welding arc, and guiding of the welding torch during the welding process;

wherein the web server is in communication with said communications interface wherein the web server is for receiving information from a communications network including said welding

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parameters and forwarding this information onto said control and evaluation unit and the web server is for receiving information from said communications interface in a form of said welding parameters wherein this information is transmitted over the computer network.

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